

CLAIMS

1. A method for determining the available power capacity of an electric power supply connected to an arrangement comprising one or more electronic circuits, characterized in that the secondary electrical behaviour of one or more electronic circuits fed by the power supply, such as electronic components and integrated circuits, is analysed.
- 5 2. A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the secondary behaviour of one or more of said electronic circuits in response to the temporary reduction of the supply voltage being applied thereto by the power supply is analysed.
- 10 3. A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the secondary behaviour of one or more of said electronic circuits in response to the temporary reduction of the supply current being fed thereto by the power supply is analysed.
- 15 4. A method according to claim 2 or 3, characterized in that the supply voltage or the supply current is reduced in steps.
5. A method according to any one or more of the preceding claims, characterized in that said secondary behaviour comprises the 20 resetting or switching to an initial state of one or more of said electronic circuits.
- 25 6. A method according to any one or more of the preceding claims, characterized in that the secondary electrical behaviour is activated, determined and analysed by a suitably programmed, processor-controlled processing unit.
7. An arrangement comprising one or more electronic circuits to be fed by an electric power supply, among which electronic components and integrated circuits, and means for determining the available power capacity of the power supply, characterized in that said means for determining the available power capacity are arranged for analysing the 30 secondary behaviour of one or more of said electronic circuits.

8. An arrangement according to claim 7, characterized in that said means for determining the available power capacity of the power supply are arranged for activating, determining and analysing the secondary behaviour of one or more of said electronic circuits.

5 9. An arrangement according to claim 7 or 8, wherein said means for determining the available power capacity of the power supply are arranged for temporarily reducing the supply voltage of one or more of said electronic circuits.

10 10. An arrangement according to claim 7 or 8, characterized in that said means for determining the available power capacity of the power supply are arranged for temporarily reducing the supply current of one or more of said electronic circuits.

15 11. An arrangement according to claim 9 or 10, characterized in that said means for determining the available power capacity of the power supply are arranged for producing a signal as soon as the available power capacity of the voltage supply is lower than a threshold value.

20 12. An arrangement according to claim 10 or 11, characterized in that said means for determining the available power capacity of the power supply comprise a series circuit of at least one resistor and a controllable semiconductor switching element.

13. An arrangement according to any one or more of the claims 7 - 12, characterized in that at least one of said electronic circuits is a circuit for resetting or switching the arrangement to an initial state.

25 14. An arrangement according to any one or more of the claims 7 - 13, characterized in that said means for determining the available power capacity of the power supply comprise a suitably programmed processor-controlled processing unit.

30 15. An arrangement according to claim 14, characterized in that said processing unit forms part of the electronic circuit or circuits to be fed by the power supply.

16. A tracking and telemetry system comprising at least one

transmitter and at least one receiver, which transmitter is arranged for producing a signal that identifies the transmitter, and which receiver is arranged for receiving said signal, characterized in that said transmitter furthermore comprises an device according to any one or more of the

5 claims 7 - 15.

17. A transmitter for use in a tracking and telemetry system according to claim 16.